

Germanians Strike at Amiens; Make Small Gain In 10 Massed Attacks; Americans at Verdun

Baker Hides Aero Failure, Engineers Say

Air Society's Committee Charges Wilful Misrepresentation

"Production Lags; Motor Not Complete"

Faulty Machines Declared Constant Peril to American Fliers

Charges that Secretary of War Baker and other government officials have engaged in a campaign of wilful misrepresentation as to the condition of the nation's aero preparedness in an effort to conceal from the public the failure of the department are contained in the report of a special committee of the Aeronautical Society of America made public at a meeting in the Engineering Society building last night.

According to this report, not only has the Secretary of War been guilty of making statements calculated to give other than an accurate impression of existing conditions, but he is charged in specific instances of making direct and wilful misstatements of fact.

Faulty Planes Peril to Men

The charge is further made that to date the Liberty motor is not completed, that a large number of the accidents on Texas flying fields are avoidable and due to bad management, faulty machines and poor inspection, and that there is a fair chance that when American aviators do begin flying in American-made machines they will be "sent practically to certain death in inferior planes."

The report, a document about 15,000 words long, was signed by Leon Camman, associate editor for the American Society of Civil Engineers; Thomas A. Hill, a patent attorney, and Charles W. Howell, general manager of the Sun Typewriter Company, all three being directors of the society.

The further charge that there is "an aeronautical trust," which has a monopoly of government business, is contained in the address made by Frederick W. Barker, president of the society, who presided at the meeting.

Statements Misled Public

The report of the committee, appointed in August of last year, starts in by saying that "as time went on the committee saw with dismay the issuance of statements by the government, which it was compelled to regard as untrue. For a while it was under the impression that such statements were issued for the deliberate purpose of misleading the enemy. It regrets to have to say, however, that it has become apparent since that it was to mislead the American people that these statements were issued."

"A still more threatening feature of the situation appeared to be the growing lack of coordination between the engineering and the production departments, clearly indicating that neither realized the nature of the work which they had to do and the means by which success in such an undertaking could be accomplished."

"The committee found that the organization of production was such that delays would be inevitable. Not only that, but the production was so organized that no effective plans were made to keep the American aviation engineering at least on the same level of excellence as that of the enemy."

Peril for Fliers

"As men familiar with the art and having information concerning the military use of aircraft, the committee was frankly horrified to find that American aviators, the flower of the youth of this country, might be sent up ultimately in inferior planes—sent practically to certain death."

"The situation was far too serious for either the committee or the society to keep silent, as silence in such a case would be treasonable."

"Hence, the committee has made several efforts to bring the results of this investigation to the attention of the proper officers of the government, but has not been successful in accomplishing this end. On all occasions it has been told that the situation is either well in hand, or will be so in the briefest time."

Committee's Conclusions

"Briefly, the committee came to the conclusion that:

"1. Practically all statements issued by the officers of the government with respect to the execution of the aircraft programme must be absolutely neglected as being untrustworthy, as misrepresenting the situation in a misleading and over-optimistic manner, and as sometimes containing matter indicating the technical ignorance of those who compose such statements."

"2. That the very vigorous censorship over all matters connected with the execution of the aircraft programme has been of no military value whatsoever, as it failed to conceal from the enemy that which ought to have been concealed. In fact, the committee ventures to express its conviction that the only purpose of the rigor of the censorship was to preclude the

Continued on Last Page

Ford Can Launch Three U-Boat Chasers a Day

WASHINGTON, April 4.—With the first of the Eagle boats, the new type super-submarine chasers for the navy, scheduled for launching in June, Henry Ford, the builder, has assured Secretary Daniels it would be possible under great stress to turn the craft out at the rate of three a day.

Under present plans Mr. Ford contemplates launching a boat a day after the building process is in full swing.

Nine Billions Is America's Bill For Year of War

More Than One-half, However, Has Gone Into Loans for Allies

WASHINGTON, April 4.—Nine billion dollars is the approximate cost to the United States of one year of war. More than one-half has gone in loans to allies, and will be repaid eventually; over one-third has been spent for the army and military establishment, one-tenth for the navy and one-fifteenth for shipbuilding.

Just one-sixth of this big war cost has been raised by taxation and other ordinary sources of revenue, and the balance has come from the sale of Liberty bonds and certificates of indebtedness.

Enormous as these war expenditures may seem to a country whose government in peace times costs between \$700,000,000 and \$800,000,000, they are less than Great Britain's and are only about two-thirds of estimates made by officials less than a year ago. Slow progress of the shipbuilding programme and the retarding of the outpouring of war supplies are regarded by officials as the chief reasons why expenses did not equal estimates.

Billions Dollars a Month

Government expenses now are running about a billion dollars a month, with somewhat less than half going to allies, who spend the greater part of their loans for war supplies in this country.

Since the declaration of war on April 6, 1917, the government's actual expenditures have been more than \$9,800,000,000, but about \$800,000,000 of this sum would have been spent for normal activities, even if the United States had not entered the war.

Ordinary expenditures, under which the Treasury classifies all outlays for operation of the governmental machinery and war enterprises, since the declaration of war have been approximately \$5,984,000,000. Actual payments to allies amounted to about \$4,743,000,000.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO SIT DOWN TO YOUR ORDINARY DAY'S WORK AFTER READING THE NEWS OF THE WORLD THESE DAYS



No Easy War, General Wood Warns Nation

Pleads With People Not To Be Overconfident

Foe Fights With Courage of Despair

Inefficiency, He Declares, Must Be Stamped Out to Win

General Leonard A. Wood, who has just returned from France, and who startled the country only a few days ago by his frank and graphic picture of what he saw on the 300-mile battle line he visited in Europe, addressed the Manufacturing Perfumers' Association at the Hotel Biltmore last night. Once again, just as he had done when speaking before the Military Committee of the United States Senate, he was frank and forceful, plain-spoken and in deadly earnest.

Time and again during his talk which occupied the greater part of two hours and held his hearers' keen interest, he warned against overconfidence in this country. He fairly pleaded with his audience and through them the whole country not to underestimate their opponents.

The Germans, he declared, are brave, remarkably efficient in everything they do and led by men who are wonderful strategists and tacticians. They are fighting, he declared, with the courage of despair and they will never stop until they are beaten into a state of absolute submission and what, in an individual, would be described as insensibility.

Will Not Be Easy War

General Wood branded as base wickedness the effort of any one at this time to mislead the public. The man who says this is going to be an easy war, the general said, pounding the top of the speaker's table with his clenched fist, lies.

To win this war, in the opinion of General Wood, there must be an immediate and thorough reorganization of the entire nation. Inefficiency, wherever it appears, must be stamped out. No matter whose head must fall, there

Continued on Next Page

American Guns That Outrange Kaiser's Ready

Will Be in France, With Crews, Next Month

[Staff Correspondence]

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.—More powerful guns than anything Germany has so far produced are in the making within a dozen miles of this city, and the first will be ready for shipment to France next month, declared Samuel Vaulain, vice-president and executive head of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, at a dinner here to-night.

A plant on the Delaware River is almost ready to turn out the big guns, Mr. Vaulain said, and the artillerymen to man them have been in training in the United States for some time. When the first gun is ready for try-out and shipment in May, he declared, its crew will be ready to go with it.

Not only will the American gun outrange the German monster that has been shelling Paris, the speaker continued, but its shells will be more destructive and the gun itself has advantages which the German weapon has not displayed. For one thing, he said, the American gun would be mobile; it could be moved from point to point behind the line with comparative rapidity.

Once the first gun was completed and left the factory, said Mr. Vaulain, others would follow in quick succession.

In mentioning the existence of the gun, he went on, he had had to exercise the utmost caution lest he betray some secret of value to the enemy.

Wilson Is Sure Army Will Prove "Finest Metal of Freeman"

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, April 4.—This week's issue of "The Stars and Stripes," the soldier's weekly, will contain the following message from President Wilson:

"Please convey to the officers and men of our expeditionary forces my warmest greetings on this the anniversary of the entrance of the United States into this great war for liberty, and say to them that we all have not only greatly admired and been very proud of the way they have so far accounted for themselves, but also have the utmost confidence that in every sense they will prove to be of the finest metal of freemen."

U. S. Forces Now Defend Meuse Hills

New Pershing Position Is Revealed by News of Enemy Raid

Heavy Fire Halts Advance of Foe

Listening Post Ambushed; Other American Sectors Quiet

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, April 4.—American forces are now occupying a sector on the Meuse Heights, south of Verdun.

This announcement was released for publication to-night simultaneously with a statement that the enemy raided one of the American listening posts in this sector, following a heavy bombardment.

The raid was made against one of the few positions in this region where it is feasible, because of the terrain, to conduct operations without heavy loss to the attacking forces. The enemy first vigorously bombarded the American first line and communication trenches zig-zagging up the hillside, and then sent over a raiding party, which swarmed about the listening post.

The further progress of the enemy was halted by a strong fire from the American first and second lines, and, as a consequence, the enemy can hardly claim success.

Because of the topography of the Meuse Heights region, there has been little severe fighting there for many months, and the opposing forces took advantage of the inactivity to construct fine dugouts, many of them being lighted by electricity. Each side enjoys the advantage of excellent observation posts, and shells echo among the surrounding hills, which are covered with spring flowers.

The other American sectors were reported quiet to-day. The Germans sent in a few shells in the sector northwest of Toul, but the enemy airplanes were fairly active in patrolling.

Americans in Verdun Sector May Say Anew 'They Shall Not Pass'

American troops, in taking over part of the Verdun front, have assumed the most important role yet assigned to them. They will fight on ground which in 1916 saw some of the hardest engagements of the whole war.

Moreover, this is part of the front where military experts consider it probable the Germans may strike this year. The German line here is held now by troops under the command of General von Cailwitz, one of the most famous of the Kaiser's leaders. His appointment in itself makes an enemy offensive here more likely. An Allied offensive down the valley of the Meuse has also been predicted.

This may be the part of the front assigned permanently to the American army, but it is more likely that General Foch, the new generalissimo, has put in some of Pershing's men here to relieve French storming troops he intends to throw into the gigantic battle in Picardy.

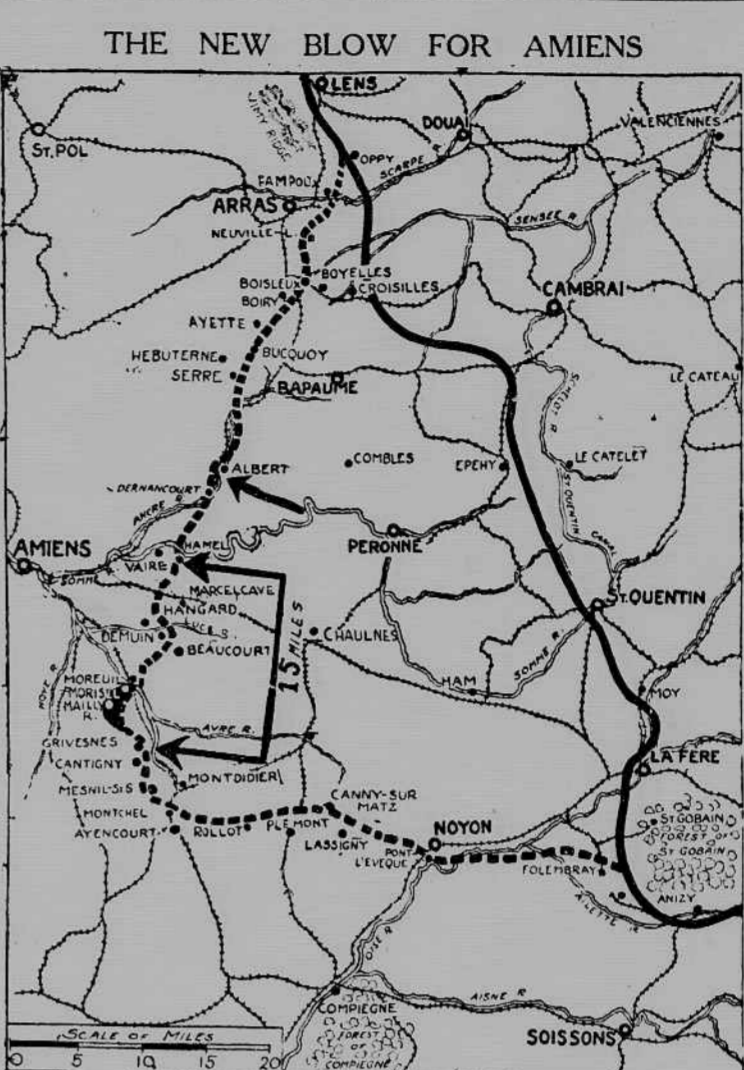
Even if there is no offensive on this front the Americans here will probably see much more lively fighting than they have experienced in the Toul sector to the south. Heavy artillery duels and trench raids on a large scale have marked the winter and spring. Some writers have thought the French would try an offensive toward the great German fortress of Metz from the positions about Verdun.

The German Crown Prince started the great Battle of Verdun while France was still in the grip of winter on February 21, 1916. He released such a storm of artillery fire as never had been seen before, though it often has been surpassed since. For a few days he made rapid progress. There was some sentiment in French military councils for giving up the city.

POINT PLEASANT TRAINS RESTORED

Effective Monday, April 8, weekday Pennsylvania Railroad trains leaving New York (Pennsylvania Station) 9:04 A. M. (Hudson Terminal) 9:00 A. M. for Point Pleasant, and leaving Point Pleasant 7:48 A. M. for New York will be restored.—Advt.

TO-NIGHT, Moulin Rouge Ball, Webster Hall, 119 East 11th St.—Advt.



The Germans attacked the French and British yesterday on a fifteen-mile front between Grivesnes and the Somme River. South of the Avre they took Morisel and Mailly-Raineval. The ground captured is shown in solid black.

London admitted the foe gained slightly near Hamel, just south of the Somme, and also between the Luce and the Avre. At all other points the Germans were repulsed. They were also thrown back in an attack west of Albert.

Allies Ready to Repel Both Peace and Military Drives

Kaiser's Last Hope Is Decision This Year, Which He Seeks to Obtain Before American Power Becomes Effective—Czernin Shows Adherence to Militarism

By C. W. Gilbert

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The new German offensive reported in dispatches from London was fully expected.

American troops are being rushed to France to be absorbed into the French and British armies, to meet any critical situation that may develop as the German effort to force a victory this year goes on.

The Allies will have to get along with less food than was allotted to them, for the fastest of the cargo ships are being used to transport American soldiers, men for the front now having priority even over food.

The Czernin speech is a frank militaristic speech. It means that Austria stands with Germany in her determination to win a military decision in the West. Its political purpose is to tell the Allies that they are paying a fearful price for standing with France in her demand for Alsace-Lorraine.

Even the liberals of Germany, whom the President likes to address, now are inflamed with the idea of conquest and of obtaining a victory on the West front this year. Their newspapers are becoming frankly annexationist.

German Attacks Now Lack Surprise Value

These paragraphs sum up the war situation as it exists to-day. Germany freed from the necessity of fighting foes in the East counts with the utmost confidence upon winning the war in the West before the United States can exert its full force. The lull which has taken place for the last few days merely signifies concentration of forces for a renewed attack. It will not take the Allies by surprise as the last one did, and there is reason to believe that it can be resisted effectively. The surprise in the last attack lay in its magnitude. Germany concentrated more men and guns on the short front where the drive was delivered than it had been believed possible for her to do. These included her own effectives from the Eastern front, the Austrian troops, the Eastern front guns and the guns she had captured in the East, and had, to the astonishment of the British, adapted for use in her army. The overwhelming nature of that attack brought anxious moments to the Allies, especially when the Somme proved to be

Now or Never For Germany

This plan of using the Americans in small units to fill up the French and British armies enables the prompt use of American troops. Long training will not be necessary, as the men will learn quickly from close contact with the experienced fighters of France and England. And the units of green troops engaged will be too small to be a source of weakness. A great reservoir of men is thus made promptly available for the emergency created by Germany's attempt to win a victory in France before American forces reach there in great strength. When our armies can be armed and shipped and the emergency is passed the scattered units doubtless will be collected and an American army will hold a large part of the line. This plan to use the Americans in small bodies applies to the men already over there as much as to the men now being hurried across.

The German effort to win a decisive victory this summer will be unmitigated as long as Germany has any reserve power left to thrust forward. It is now or never with her, for it is recognized even by the Liberals in all countries that the war will have to be fought out to a military decision. If Germany does not get her decision this summer the Allies will exact their next year. Therefore, tremendous and repeated efforts are expected. Especially will this be Germany's policy, for the pressure which she is bringing to bear upon the Allied line is being

Continued on Next Page

Kaiser's Men Mowed Down By Terrific French Fire

130,000 Used in Attack—Two Villages Are Finally Taken

Haig Holds Firm Near Albert

Mackensen Sent to Aid Hindenburg — Germans Have Million Reserves

The Germans resumed the offensive in Picardy with great fury yesterday on an eighteen-mile front, southwest of Amiens, divided about equally by the British and French. At some points they gained ground slightly, at others they were thrown back with tremendous losses.

Against the French, from Grivesnes to midway between the Luce and the Avre rivers, at least eleven divisions (130,000 men) were thrown ten times with great recklessness. They were "mowed down," Paris officials report. The enemy took two villages southwest of Moreuil, while around Grivesnes the French advanced slightly. Meanwhile a great artillery duel developed on the south of the German salient, between Montdidier and Lassigny.

Haig reported last night that the desperate battle still continued. The enemy, he said, had advanced slightly just south of the Somme and also in the French sector between the Luce and the Avre, but had been repulsed elsewhere. He also testified to the great German losses.

The sector chosen for attack covers the juncture of the British and the French forces which took the place of the badly cut up British Fifth Army. This point in the line is nearest to Amiens, now about twelve miles away.

Further north the Teutons were thrown back with great losses in an assault west of Albert. On the rest of the battlefield it was comparatively quiet yesterday.

Marshal Haig reported unusually strong hostile artillery activity in the Ypres section.

Berlin officially announced that the Allies on Wednesday made four unsuccessful attempts to recapture the heights southwest of Moreuil, just to the south across the Avre from the new front attacked by the Germans yesterday. Last night German headquarters reported "fresh successes" south of the Somme.

Heavy rain continues, but apparently the enemy has moved forward large numbers of heavy guns in spite of it.

Mackensen to Aid New Drive; Foe Has Million Reserves

By Arthur S. Draper

[Tribune Cable Service]

LONDON, April 4.—From several enemy and neutral sources come reports that von Mackensen is booked to play a big part in the expected new drive by the enemy. Estimates fix the German reserves which will be sent into the second battle at seventy-five divisions, or roughly one million men.

The most interesting feature of Haig's first report to-day is the statement that the enemy's artillery has been active in the Menin Road and the Paschendale sectors on the Ypres front. This strengthens the theory advanced in these dispatches